

Appln. No. 10/735,437
Amtd. Dated October 8, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 8, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 3097-4008US1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A composition useful for hepatoprotection, said composition comprising an effective amount of a polar solvent extract (A001) from the plant *Cryptolepis buchanani*; and optionally pharmaceutically acceptable additives.
2. (currently amended) [[A]]The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said additives are selected from a group of nutrients comprising consisting essentially of proteins, carbohydrates, sugar, talc, magnesium stearate, cellulose, calcium carbonate, and starch-gelatin paste[[,]]; and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, diluent, or solvent.
3. (currently amended) [[A]]The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polar solvent[[s are]]is selected from a group comprising consisting essentially of alcohol, rectified spirit, aqueous rectified spirit, and water.
4. (currently amended) [[A]]The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said extract and additives are in the ratio ranging between 1:1 to 1:10.
5. (currently amended) A method of preparing a polar solvent extract A001 and its four fractions F001, F002, F003, and F004 from plant *Cryptolepis buchanani* having hepatoprotective activity, said method comprising:
 - (i) powdering said plant,
 - (ii) percolating said powder in cold with a polar solvent,

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- (iii) concentrating said percolate to prepare a polar solvent extract (A001),
- (iv) triturating said extract successively with solvents of increasing polarity using hexane and chloroform,
- (v) collecting fractions F001 and F002 respectively with said solvents and a residue,
- (vi) partitioning said residue between n-butanol and water of ratio 5:1, and
- (vii) collecting the n-butanol soluble fraction (F003) and the water soluble fraction (F004).

6. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein a root and an aerial part of said plant are preferred plant parts for said activity.

7. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein polar solvent is selected from a group consisting essentially of comprising methanol, propanol, and ethanol.

8. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the polar solvent is preferably 95% ethanol.

9. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the percolated plant in polar solvent is at a concentration ranging between 100[[-]] and 500gms/liter.

10. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the percolation is for a time duration ranging between 14[[-]] and 18 hours.

11. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the percolated extract is concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure.

12. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the percolated extract is concentrated at a temperature ranging between 40° C and [[-]] 50° C.

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13. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the percolated extract is concentrated at a temperature preferably of about 45° C.

14. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the percolated extract is finally dried in a vacuum.

15. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the trituration rate is ranging ranges between 15[[-]]and 35 ml/minute.

16. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the trituration rate is preferably about 23 ml/minute.

17. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein triturating with each of the said solvents occurs for a time duration ranging between 20 [[to]]and 40 minutes.

18. (currently amended) [[A]]The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said fractions have a concentration of :

- (a) F001— about 11% (w/w),
- (b) F002 – about 15 % (w/w),
- (c) F003 — about 40% (w/w), and
- (d) F004 — about 35% (w/w).

19. (currently amended) A composition useful for hepatoprotection, said composition comprising an effective amount of the fraction F003 of claim 5 from plant *Cryptolepis buchanani*, and optionally pharmaceutically acceptable additives.

20. (currently amended)) [[A]]The composition as claimed in claim 19, wherein said additives are selected from a group of nutrients comprising consisting essentially of proteins,

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carbohydrates, sugar, talc, magnesium stearate, cellulose, calcium carbonate, and starch-gelatin paste[,[,]]; and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, diluent, or solvent.

21. (currently amended) [[A]]The composition as claimed in claim 19, wherein said fraction and additives are in a ratio ranging between 1:1 [[to]]and 1:10.

22-34. (cancelled)